



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2014

No. 111

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable EDWARD J. MARKEY, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we worship You, for Your loving-kindness, truth, and faithfulness sustain us. Though You are high, You respect the lowly. So today infuse our Senators with the spirit of lowliness and humility. Give them the wisdom to know that You give grace to the humble but oppose the proud. May their humility bring them that reverential awe that leads to honor and life. Lord, help them to remember that America's greatness comes not from the swagger of might but from the lowliness of that righteousness which exalts any nation. Guide our lawmakers with Your wisdom and uphold them with Your might.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 16, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable EDWARD J. MARKEY, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. MARKEY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

PROTECT WOMEN'S HEALTH FROM CORPORATE INTERFERENCE ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 459, S. 2578, the Protect Women's Health From Corporate Interference Act.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 459, S. 2578, a bill to ensure that employers cannot interfere in their employees' birth control and other health care decisions.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2609
AND H.R. 5021

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bills by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2609) to restore States' sovereign rights to enforce State and local sales and use tax laws, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 5021) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings regarding these bills at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the nomination of Ronnie L. White to be a United States district judge for the Eastern District of Missouri. The debate will be until 10:15 a.m. Senators GRASSLEY, CORNYN, and SHAHEEN will control 10 minutes each of that time and Senator MCCASKILL will control any remaining time.

We have moved the time up, and I appreciate very much the cooperation of the Republicans because this is so one of our Senators can attend the funeral of one of his best friends. But we are not going to extend the time past 10:15 a.m. In light of that I am not going to give any statement today. If cloture is invoked, we will have a 12:20 p.m. vote.

Upon disposition of the White nomination, the Senate will resume legislative session and proceed to the motion to proceed to S. 2578, the Protect Women's Health From Corporate Interference Act. The time until 2:10 p.m. will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with each side controlling 5 minutes of the final 10 minutes. At 2:10 p.m. the Senate will proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2578.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. be under Republican control and the time between 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. be controlled by the majority.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there will be an all-Senators briefing at 5:30 p.m. this afternoon, and it is all related to the emergency supplemental request to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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